Use of amphibious vehicles by the Army and Navy

3417. SHRI AIMADUDDIN AHMED KHAN (DURRU):
SHRI SANTOSH BAGRODIA:

Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether there are any amphibious vehicles used by the Army and Navy;

(b) if so, what are the types of vehicles used;

(c) whether heavy equipments like tanks, jeeps, etc. can be transported on them for land-sea operations;

(d) if so, the capacity of such vehicles used; and

(e) if not, whether bigger amphibious vehicles should be produced to equip the Army and the Navy ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF DEFENCE (PROF. CHAMAN LAL GUPTA): (a) The Army has amphibious vehicles in service. However, the Navy does not have any amphibious vehicle.

(b) There are seven types of amphibious vehicles in service in the Army as detailed below:

(i) Infantry Combat Vehicle—BMP-I

(ii) Infantry Combat Vehicle—BMP-II

(iii) BRDM-2 (Reconnaissance)

(iv) BRDM (Striker)

(v) Armoured Amphibious Dozer (AAD)

(vi) Armoured Engineering Reconnaissance Vehicle (AERV)

(vii) Combat Engineering Tractor (CET)

(c) The amphibious vehicles of the Army are used for carrying troops, reconnaissance and support of tank formations. They are not used for transporting tanks or jeeps for land-sea operations.

(d) In view of the reply at (c), the question does not arise.

(e) The need for such vehicles has not been felt.